

B'ent

(a) from about 0.1% to about 99% by weight of a vehicle system which comprises a hydrophobically modified water soluble polysaccharide polymer having a hydrophilic portion which comprises a water soluble polysaccharide polymer backbone and a hydrophobic moiety which comprises [is] 3-alkoxy-2-hydroxypropyl group wherein the alkyl moiety is a straight or branch chain having 3-24 carbon atoms, and wherein the hydrophobic moiety is present in an amount up to the amount which renders said polysaccharide less than 1% by weight soluble in water, and

(b) at least one active household care ingredient selected from the group consisting of cleaning, sanitizing, polishing, pesticide, and toilet preparation products.--

REMARKS

Entry of the above amendment and reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-33 under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the applicant regards as the invention is now in order in view of the amendment to claim 1 in the Amendment of May 11, 1999. Claim 1 has now been amended to define "household care" to mean cleaning, sanitizing, polishing, pesticide, and toilet preparation products. The term "viscositying" is a term of art that is well known in the household care product industry. See the remarks and attached publication in the amendment filed May 11, 1999 for a further explanation of this term.

The rejection of claims 1, 4-6, 8, 10, 13, 15, 16, 18, 20-22, 25, 26, 30, and 33 under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by t'Sas '207 is traversed. The arguments set forth in the Amendment filed May 11, 1999 are herein repeated. The t'Sas patent is directed only to building compositions. There is no disclosure in this patent for apprising a person skilled in the art how to use this composition for use in household care compositions. Building materials and household care compositions are in non-analogous arts. The active ingredients of the instant invention would not be suggested

by the t'Sas patent. For the reasons set forth above, it is submitted that this rejection should be withdrawn.

The rejection of claims 1-9, 11-13, 15-31, and 33 under 35 USC 102 (b) as being anticipated by Landoll ('277) is traversed. The Landoll reference is akin to the t'Sas reference mentioned above. Landoll discloses a hydrophobe modified polymer where the hydrophobe is an alkyl having 10-24 carbons. Again, this is a long chain alkyl group as opposed to a group having both short and long chain alkyl moieties, which means that Landoll is limited only to an associative thickener while the instant invention can be a non-associative as well as an associative thickener. These polymers are simply different. Moreover, Landoll has an enabling disclosure only for shampoos and latex paints based on the working Examples. The disclosure in column 9, lines 5-12, suggest that the composition of this patent can be used as a stabilizer in emulsion polymerization, as thickeners in cosmetics and latex paints, and as flocculent in mineral processing. The patent does not teach or enable a person skilled in the art how to practice this invention for household-care products. This patent simply does not enable a person having an ordinary skill in the art how to practice Landoll's invention in household care formulations. For these reasons, Landoll clearly does not anticipate the instant invention.

The rejection of claims 1-9 and 11- 33 under 35 USC 102 (b) as being anticipated by Bolich et al is traversed. Bolich et al does not disclose a household care product but rather discloses a cosmetic composition for the skin and hair. We agree with the Examiner that the cellulose ethers disclosed in the Landoll patent (mentioned above) are used in this Bolich et al patent along with other ingredients for cosmetics. This reference does not disclose any household care ingredients or give any enabling disclose for use in household care products. The arguments set forth above are repeated herein. Hence, this patent clearly does not anticipate the instant invention.

The rejection of claims 1-9, 11-13, 15-31 and 33 under 35 USC 102 (b) as being anticipated by Goddard is traversed. Goddard does not disclose a household care

product but rather discloses personal care products. This patent discloses hydrophobically modified cellulose ethers of the Landoll patent noted above along with water and other personal care ingredients to prepare a foamable composition suitable for use as foaming personal care products. Hence, this patent is cumulative to the above referenced patents and the arguments set forth above apply equally hereto. Therefore, this patent clearly does not anticipate the instant invention.

For the reasons set forth above, it is submitted that this application is now in condition for allowance and prompt notification thereof is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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